



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD
RETREAT
KIVA CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL
3939 N. DRINKWATER BLVD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ, 85251
APRIL 14, 2006
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

PRESENT: Daniel Basinger, Chairman
Jay Spector, Vice-Chair
Michele Cohen, Board Member
Ron Hand, Board Member
Jimmy Leung, Board Member
Jim Mulloy, Board Member
Brian Munson, Board Member

STAFF: Larry Person
Bob Cafarella
Chuck Skidmore

OTHER: Mary Manross, Mayor
Don Manthe, past Vice-Chair
Beverley Westgaard, Green Building Advisory Committee

1. CALL TO ORDER

The retreat was called to order by Chairman Basinger at 9:12 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF 3/15/06 MEETING MINUTES

A roll call confirmed that all Board Members were present. Vice-Chair Spector welcomed Chairman Basinger. Mr. Person noted the presence of past Vice-Chair Manthe.

BOARD MEMBER MUNSON MOVED THE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 15, 2006 MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER HAND AND CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING AGENDA

It was noted that the Water Committee and the Energy Committee had not met since the previous EQAB meeting.

Board Member Cohen reported that the Green Building Advisory Committee met. The work groups are progressing well. The lecture series are well attended. The next lecture topic is Innovative Projects, to be held on May 4th. Preparations for the Green Building Expo are moving along. The new publicity work group is working to develop some publicity ideas, including approaching Home and Garden Television.

Board Member Cohen added that she is working with Cable 11 to develop a television show on environmental issues. She met with Michael Clack, Chief Development Officer, who is excited and enthusiastic about this concept. Ms. Robin Meinhart is now working with Channel 11. Initially the format will be designed to promote dialog regarding Green Building.

Vice-Chairman Spector reported that the City received an award from the Governor's Energy Office for the Green Building Program. The awards luncheon was a good opportunity to highlight the program. He congratulated Mr. Floyd, Mr. Skidmore, the Green Building Advisory Committee and staff on the program.

Mr. Person announced that 13 schools have registered for EnviroKidsFest. Approximately 900 students and over 100 teachers and other adults are expected to attend the event at WestWorld on Thursday, April 20th. He encouraged everyone to volunteer. Mr. Person noted that more posters have been submitted than ever before. Every participating class has created a mini-mural. Mr. Person has made presentations to a number of schools and emphasized the need to make this an environmentally responsible event. Recycling and composting will be available for lunch waste. Some classes have committed to packing out any trash that they create.

Vice-Chairman Spector spoke about the legislative session, noting that it will be possible to have a better grasp of which legislation has been enacted in May.

5. BY-LAWS REQUIREMENT WAIVER FOR DANIEL BASSINGER'S MEETING ATTENDANCE

Vice-Chairman Spector noted that this item is now moot, given Chairman Basinger's attendance.

6. BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE RETREAT

Vice-Chairman Spector noted that the purpose of the retreat is to concentrate on developing EQAB's priorities for the next couple of years, following a review of the August 2003 strategic planning session. Vice-Chairman Spector introduced the retreat facilitator, Mr. Bob Cafarella, Preservation Director.

7. ACCOMPLISHMENTS, LESS THAN SUCCESSFUL ENDEAVORS AND EXPERIENCES, DISCUSSION

Mr. Cafarella stressed that the retreat is in discussion format and urged everyone to participate.

Mr. Cafarella noted that boards and commissions are created to tap into expertise and to smooth the political policymaking process, although City Council ultimately decides whether or not to implement board recommendations. Mr. Cafarella noted that Chairman Basinger has advocated with City Councilmembers on behalf of EQAB and this has contributed to the success of this Board.

How a board conducts its business is in some respects up to Board Members to decide. A discussion ensued on the membership of subcommittees and working groups. Board Members noted that there are subcommittee and working group members who are not Scottsdale residents, but whose technical expertise is valuable.

Currently names of subcommittee members are forwarded to City Council. Mr. Person noted that Chairman Basinger developed guidelines for subcommittees and an application form for potential members.

Mr. Cafarella noted that EQAB is one of the boards and commissions that brings new initiatives forward to City Council. He admires the vision within EQAB. The Board is involved in cutting edge concepts and needs strong advocacy. Chairman Basinger and Mr. Person were successful in getting senior City management to commit to the LEED Gold policy.

Referring to the 2004 Work Program, Mr. Cafarella asked the Board Members for a current status report on the work program items.

Vice-Chairman Spector noted that SOLFEST unfortunately will not be held in 2006. The Energy Committee will remain an important priority. Recycling will always be a challenge. The residential recycling program is great. The pilot program for recycling in parks was attempted last year, but was not successful. He would like to do more planning and try again.

Board Member Munson commented that EnviroKidsFest is a positive event. Energy efficiency is an ongoing concern. The Green Building Advisory Committee continues to do an excellent job. He opined that a better job could be done with regard to promotion. A brief discussion ensued regarding the status of the ESLO noise study. Vice-Chairman Spector noted that this issue may resurface during the Transportation Master Plan deliberations, and opined that EQAB needs to be involved in the discussion.

Discussion assessing EQAB's accomplishments in various areas followed. Board Members concurred that building a relationship with the Water Department is a positive step forward.

Board Member Leung commented that the Green Building program is the most successful. The Committee has connected with and engaged the citizens of Scottsdale and has also influenced City policies. He opined that this is a model for future projects. A discussion followed comparing the Green Building program with other areas that the Board is interested in.

Mr. Cafarella suggested that the Board begin by identifying priorities.

Board Member Leung suggested a task-oriented approach implementing a promotions subcommittee to promote all of EQAB's concerns and projects as opposed to creating a subcommittee for each individual topic.

Board Member Mulloy opined that the Board needs to step back and consider the entire topic of energy, rather than focusing narrowly on renewable energy. Vice-Chairman Spector suggested that with the growth in the City, a focal point such as a City Energy Office might be worth striving for.

Board Member Mulloy identified that water, energy, and Green Building fall under the umbrella of sustainability.

Board Member Hand agreed that the Green Building program is EQAB's biggest success. He suggested that the Board could focus on energy efficiency within City facilities and noted discussions at a recent EQAB meeting identifying the need to work closely with Solid Waste.

Vice-Chairman Spector remarked that there should be an EQAB presence at any environmental event sponsored by the City.

Mr. Cafarella asked Board Member Hand to talk about the attempt to introduce recycling in City parks. Board Member Hand outlined Vice-Chairman Spector's efforts. The pilot program was successful but it was very difficult and finally was not expanded to other parks. Board Member Munson pointed out that the project had nevertheless been a learning experience. Board Member Hand said he is particularly concerned with being able to expand this beyond City parks and into the commercial arena. Having spoken with Solid Waste staff, he noted the need to help understand the commercial level of recycling.

Mr. Person remarked that EQAB has always been interested in recycling. He reviewed the background history of the curbside recycling program. The City Code provides that the City's Solid Waste Division picks up single-family residential recycling and all other recycling in the City is open to private enterprise. The Code would have to be amended to mandate recycling in multi-family housing. It is important for EQAB to recognize the institutional obstacles.

Board Member Munson identified that the question is how effective private enterprise has been at recycling and suggested that perhaps EQAB should network with the private recycling companies. Mr. Person noted that the City Solid Waste Division is at capacity in terms of being able to do commercial recycling because of the Ordinance that sets forth what the Division is allowed to do. The Solid Waste Division is trying to gear up in order to do more jobsite recycling.

Mr. Person described the recent hazardous waste collection day at the Airport, which had not been cost-effective. After the event, he suggested to the Solid Waste Division that the event should be combined with the regular household hazardous waste days. The Division was not receptive to this concept because not all of the tenants at the Airport are residents, and the Scottsdale citizens are paying for the household hazardous waste events. Mr. Person added that the City Code is at the root of this issue.

Board Member Hand opined that EQAB's greatest achievement in terms of promotion was the 2004 sustainability indicators report. Individual Board Members and Mr. Person made presentations to every other board and commission. This gave EQAB a tool to network with other bodies and raised the Board's profile.

EQAB's work on ESLO had drawn larger public attendance than most meetings. Mr. Hand agreed that noise is an environmental issue, but that the topic is exhausted. He suggested looking at the issue from an alternative transportation perspective.

Vice-Chairman Spector commented that transportation questions such as light rail are quality-of-life as well as environmental issues. He has spoken with Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning and Transit Director, making the case that EQAB should be involved in consultations regarding the City's Transportation Master Plan. Board Member Hand noted that alternative transportation could reduce noise pollution and improve air quality.

Board Member Cohen pointed out EQAB's accomplishments over the last two years, noting that although SOLFEST has been dropped, EnviroKidsFest has been enormously successful. She articulated that it is difficult to measure how successful such events are and stressed that it is important for EQAB to understand where it can be most effective.

Mr. Cafarella agreed that a key consideration that he, Chairman Basinger and Mr. Person had identified is that EQAB must narrow its focus. He suggested that EQAB could become even more effective by identifying projects for each year, recalling that the campaign to implement the LEED Gold policy was achieved by focusing on that one issue.

Board Member Cohen said that the Board has done a good job at persuading the City to partner with them. She recalled that at the last retreat they had recognized that energy is a most challenging issue, because to date there has been no place to focus this issue within the City organization. She also noted that until recently there was no Board Member who had the background to focus on energy issues in a leadership role.

A discussion ensued on energy management policies at different cities. Referring to the April 3 issue of Time Magazine, Mr. Skidmore regretted that Mr. Floyd was not in attendance to discuss sustainability. Even though many factors are out of EQAB's control, one should still do what one can to impact sustainability. He said that although people in America have the freedom to spend lavishly, that freedom ends when resources for future generations are affected. He believes there should be disincentives on wasteful practices. He had suggested a surcharge on water heaters to the

Governor's Renewable Energy Task Force, in order to encourage the use of solar energy.

Mr. Don Manthe suggested that the focus of the retreat be aligned with EQAB's purpose, noting that the Board serves as an advisory board to City Council on technical matters, but as recognized in today's discussion, also contains a political aspect to its work. He agreed with Board Member Leung that horizontally integrated promotion makes sense. Mr. Manthe cautioned that strong partnerships with City staff are important. Promotion alone will not achieve their goals. He concurred with Board Member Cohen that EQAB has made great strides in the last few years. He challenged EQAB to think of areas where technology and political aspects can synergize, as happened in the case of the Green Building program.

Chairman Basinger encouraged partnerships with other commissions. He cautioned that at times this can become a minefield as more people are involved, but noted that this kind of partnership can make EQAB more effective in its dealings with the City. It is important to promote EQAB and the good things the Board is doing for the City. Higher visibility produces synergy and other groups take the initiative to offer help and support. Mr. Skidmore commented that City Council is preoccupied with day-to-day concerns, yet City Council is elected to provide leadership. The various boards and commissions are appointed by City Council to help them see into the future and be able to lead the City into the future. He recalled the foresight shown when the McDowell Sonoran Preserve was created.

A discussion took place on air quality and the need to involve other levels of government. Mr. Cafarella noted that there are concerned citizens in other communities. The success of implementing the LEED Gold policy can be attributed to EQAB members' determination. It is key to have citizen support for EQAB initiatives.

Mr. Cafarella told the meeting that his department has requested an additional position, which is in the budget because of a commitment City management made to Chairman Basinger. He outlined the history of Scottsdale's involvement with the Environmental Management System. City management committed to reapplying for EMS and to hiring a staff person to manage that system. Once the new position opens, Mr. Cafarella believes the City will be able to participate in the Environmental Management System and also implement the sustainability report, which is a key EQAB objective.

Vice-Chairman Spector shared that he met with Mr. Craig Clifford, Financial Services General Manager, last week and discussed Proposition 402. Financial Services staff have not developed an alternative budget in the event the proposition is voted down.

8. LUNCH WITH INVITED GUESTS

Mayor Manross arrived to share lunch with the Board. Councilman Osterman sent regrets that he was unable to attend the retreat.

Vice-Chairman Spector advised Mayor Manross that the Board had spent the morning reviewing the strategic plan from the last retreat. The afternoon would be devoted to deciding which issues the present Board wishes to focus on and how they would set

about achieving these goals. He asked Mayor Manross to share her thoughts on environmental and quality-of-life issues relative to the City in the next few years.

Mayor Manross replied that it is clear that the City needs to stay on top of environmental issues because these are so important. It is important to stay in the vanguard with the Green Building program.

Mayor Manross recalled her involvement in establishing the City recycling program in the 90s, noting that the process took longer to establish than some other cities but Scottsdale now has the cleanest trash in America. She expressed frustration that commercial and multi-family developments are sending recyclables to the landfill. She suggested that EQAB could suggest some Code changes or other steps to take in order to resolve recycling issues. Mayor Manross believes this is an issue that would receive solid community support.

Vice-Chairman Spector advised Mayor Manross that the Board is considering ways of promoting what the City is doing for the environment. Energy has become a big issue. He noted that Scottsdale does not have an energy office although many other communities do. The Mayor asked him to benchmark by identifying comparable progressive cities around the country which have an energy office. Vice-Chairman Spector undertook to obtain that information.

Chairman Basinger commented that Phoenix has an energy office. Albuquerque and Boston were also mentioned. Mr. Skidmore described how the Phoenix program operates. Mayor Manross agreed that a longer-term approach to energy management makes sense.

Vice-Chairman Spector noted the Board's discussion regarding air quality, recognizing that Scottsdale cannot solve the regional air quality problem. Mayor Manross agreed that the air quality issue is frustrating. Chairman Basinger said that she and City Council can take leads from EQAB. He appreciates what she has done to date. Mayor Manross welcomed new ideas, noting that she sits on the MAG Board which often deals with these issues.

Board Member Cohen inquired regarding MAG's thoughts on the issue. Mayor Manross explained that MAG is dismayed about the violations and expected penalties. New air quality inspectors have been hired. She added that MAG is not pursuing farmers or developers, even though she had urged that they should. She has advised MAG that Scottsdale is doing everything the City can to improve air quality, but the biggest pollution sources are in Phoenix. In response to inquiry by Chairman Basinger, Mayor Manross suggested that a way for Board Members to encourage raising Phoenix environmental standards is by talking to EQAB counterparts.

Vice-Chairman Spector suggested a joint meeting with the Phoenix Environment Commission. Mr. Person reported that Phoenix has spent a lot of money on the problem areas along the Salt River. Vice-Chairman Spector noted that the business interests of rock products companies are an obstacle. Mayor Manross remarked that the Valley will be economically penalized within a few years if this issue is not resolved.

Mr. Person noted that Mayor Manross had very effectively communicated to the EPA that the Federal government should not hamstring a region by passing legislation that exempts major players in the region's air pollution problem. Pending Federal legislation will exempt egg producers and mining operations, which are two of the area's biggest polluters.

Mr. Manthe asked Mayor Manross about water issues. She replied that this is a balancing act. Golf is very important to the Arizona economy although it uses a great deal of water. Mayor Manross serves on the board of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association. She noted that water conservation is an important issue for everyone and opined that Scottsdale is doing a good job.

Board Member Munson stated that the City's efforts to have golf courses use reused water is exemplary. Mayor Manross noted that the salinity of the CAP water is a problem for the golf courses. Board Member Manthe praised the turf removal programs in south Scottsdale. Mayor Manross remarked that incentive programs are good. Vice-Chairman Spector noted that Scottsdale's use of effluent water to water golf courses has not been duplicated elsewhere. A discussion on water reclamation ensued.

Mayor Manross commented that noise is an elusive matter to deal with. Vice-Chairman Spector noted that the Board has discussed this issue. Mayor Manross suggested that there might be ways that policy could be incorporated into the Transportation Master Plan. A discussion regarding noise ordinances followed.

Board Member Cohen thanked Mayor Manross for her role in implementing the LEED Gold policy and asked her whether she had given any thought about moving towards a similar policy for commercial buildings. Mayor Manross expressed favor in moving forward in that regard and requested receipt of the Board's ideas. Mayor Manross noted that the establishment of the Preserve and the recent photo radar pilot program were examples of forward thinking actions by the City.

Board Member Cohen mentioned that Green Building is currently a hot topic and that the current issue of Vanity Fair is devoted to green issues. The implementation of a commercial Green Building policy would differentiate the City. Mayor Manross noted that the issue is largely a question of education and opined that Scottsdale's goal should be to become as sustainable a community as possible.

Mr. Skidmore advised the meeting that the air conditioning at the Desert Outdoor Center will be powered by solar thermal energy.

Mayor Manross thanked the Board for lunch, concluding that that EQAB is doing the most important work in the City and requested that the Board keep her informed with ideas and suggestions. Vice-Chairman Spector promised to send her a copy of the new plan when it is developed and discuss it in public at a City Council meeting.

9. REVIEW EQAB'S PURPOSE, POWERS, AND DUTIES, COMMITTEES, MISSION STATEMENT

Vice-Chairman Spector distributed the relevant section of the Scottsdale Revised Code for reference. The purpose of EQAB is to advise the City Council on issues relating to

environmental quality and prioritizing future environmental activities and programs. He opined that there may be a need to recommend adjustments to the Code.

Mr. Person identified that the Board's primary audience is the Mayor and City Council. Less is said in the Code about listening to citizens or communicating with them. A discussion on the Board's role followed.

Mr. Cafarella noted that there seemed to be two parallel tracks in the discussion. He stated that once City Council has accepted an idea proposed by EQAB, it seems appropriate to him that EQAB can then promote the concept to the public.

Mr. Person noted that Section 2-303 empowers EQAB to devise ideas and make recommendations; EQAB and its subcommittees are not otherwise authorized to take any actions. A discussion ensued on the role of EQAB and the Green Building Advisory Committee.

Mr. Cafarella noted that the Green Building program is mid-stream, having been implemented by staff. He opined that as long as EQAB is informed of Green Building Advisory Committee activities, their current direction is appropriate. As an example, if the group decided to create an Energy Subcommittee, that concept would have to be presented by EQAB and approved by City Council before the Energy Subcommittee could start activities.

10. DETERMINE PRIORITIES FOR BOARD FOR NEXT SEVERAL YEARS

Mr. Cafarella led the meeting through the activity of listing priorities in a multi-year perspective.

Noise was identified as part of transportation and quality-of-life issues. Learning that the Transportation Commission has not approached EQAB, Mr. Cafarella suggested that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman approach the Chair of the Transportation Commission to propose a partnership. Board Member Munson added that transportation issues also interface with air quality issues.

A discussion followed on ESLO. This was an instance in which EQAB worked with the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board. EQAB members noted that the Board did a great deal of the legwork on ESLO. Mr. Person added that there has been talk of a future vision of a green community, not confined to individual green buildings within the community. EQAB's involvement in the ESLO process is a stepping stone giving the Board the entrée into the planning and development structure in the City.

Vice-Chairman Spector noted that EQAB could play a role in looking at the environmental impact of projects such as Silverstone. Mr. Cafarella suggested that the Board discuss this concept, noting that they could continue to address issues on an ad hoc basis, or develop environmental design standards. Mr. Person stated that the most recent iteration of the General Plan incorporates environmental design standards and opined that this could be one of the steps towards a green community.

Board Member Hand suggested that EQAB should liaise with other boards and commissions to keep environmental concerns as a consideration. Mr. Person reiterated that Chairman Basinger has spoken for the last several years about cultivating relationships with other boards and commissions. EQAB has input on the environmental components involved in areas such as transportation and planning.

Mr. Cafarella confirmed that the consensus of the Board is not to bring back SOLFEST. Vice-Chairman Spector opined that EQAB has lost control of EnviroKidsFest, citing that no current Board Member is on the planning committee for that event. He suggested that if the event is a subcommittee of EQAB, the Board should be in a position to run that group. A lengthy discussion regarding the status of EnviroKidsFest ensued. Mr. Person suggested that perhaps Mr. Frank Gray would be interested in taking over this event as part of an outreach to students regarding environmental planning.

Board Member Cohen replied that Mr. Gray had wanted the Green Building Advisory Committee to run an outreach event when he spoke of the need to build sustainable communities. She recalled that Mr. Gray was involved with a program that encouraged high school students to think about how to build communities. The strength of EnviroKidsFest is that it effectively educates the young children. Board Member Cohen emphasized the importance of measuring the effectiveness of EnviroKidsFest, suggesting that the participants and volunteers should be surveyed. She noted that changing the thrust of EnviroKidsFest could mean that EQAB has to recruit new volunteers.

Mr. Person posed several questions relative to EnviroKidsFest in relation to EQAB's priorities and vision and cautioned that the Board needs to think strategically about all its activities.

Mr. Cafarella began creating an unranked list of priorities on the whiteboard and queried whether there are items which are not currently priorities, either because they are effectively being taken care of or are completed.

Vice-Chairman Spector suggested that since EQAB can have little impact on regional air quality, this item should not be viewed as an EQAB priority over the next few years. He opined that there are other things the Board can do which will be more successful.

Board Member Munson agreed, but added that many of the same things could be said about water. He opined that the important aspects related to air quality are connected to the Transportation Master Plan and therefore, the focus on air quality should be narrowed. Vice-Chairman Spector agreed that EQAB needs to focus on the environmental components of a Transportation Master Plan. Chairman Basinger noted that construction dust causes significant air pollution that EQAB should not ignore.

Chairman Basinger commented that before his absence the Board had discussed establishing a relationship with the Environmental Board in Phoenix. Mr. Person reported that he has been working with his environmental counterparts in other cities. Mr. Person serves on the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee. The Environmental Managers Round Table at MAG has worked on greenhouse gas emissions. The Round Table is trying to come up with a Desert Southwest version of the Cool Cities initiative, so that the mayors can take proactive positive steps.

Vice-Chairman Spector remarked that through the Transportation Master Plan, EQAB could recommend that all unpaved roads be paved. This initiative would reduce dust and air pollution, but be unpopular politically. Mr. Person reminded the Board that EQAB had presided over two public meetings regarding dust control in north Scottsdale. The northern part of the community has changed dramatically over the last five years. He suggested that EQAB might preside over dust control public involvement meetings in north Scottsdale.

Mr. Cafarella added dust control to the list of priorities on the whiteboard. Board Member Cohen said that perhaps Scottsdale could do something that would set an example to other cities. Noting that it would be impossible to ban leaf blowers, she suggested that there could be incentives for people to use more environmentally friendly alternatives.

Board Member Cohen suggested investigating the City vehicle fleet and how to move it in the direction of using cleaner fuels. Chairman Basinger concurred, further suggesting that EQAB needs to develop and start to sell the concept to Mayor and City Council. Mr. Person noted that fleet fuel matters are an energy issue. A discussion ensued on fuel policies.

Mr. Person mentioned that Valley Forward is doing another environmental report card, grading the cities in the Valley on such items as air quality. Scottsdale took a number of progressive measures years before other cities did, which results in a poor grade because Scottsdale has done nothing recently to address air quality.

Mr. Skidmore commented that alternative fuels cost more and remarked that if an air quality policy were in place, fleet managers could justify taking these measures. EQAB could recommend that City Council adopt a policy that would enable managers to take environmental measures.

Board Member Munson suggested that recycling is a priority. He noted that Mayor Manross was concerned with recycling for multi-family and commercial properties.

Vice-Chairman Spector noted that Green Building construction and jobsite recycling are priorities and expressed a desire to develop a robust program for the City. Board Member Hand suggested expanding the topic to recycling and waste management, noting the importance of looking at the big picture issues.

A discussion followed on whether promotion is a priority or part of the process. Board Members concurred that the question to consider is how to define promotion strategy. Vice-Chairman Spector met with the City Manager recently, who offered assistance from the Public Affairs office to work with EQAB as needed on promotion. He opined that once EQAB priorities are defined, assistance from the City Manager will help define the promotional strategy.

Board Member Munson suggested that a sustainability subcommittee might drive the sustainability report and identify what measures would be appropriate. Replying to a question from Mr. Cafarella, Board Member Cohen commented that the Green Building Advisory Committee is trying to expand into sustainability issues. She feels that there is

a danger of the Committee getting off track. A sustainability subcommittee would be helpful. A discussion ensued to identify the priority level of sustainability.

Mr. Cafarella commented that thinking about economic impacts can make it easier to persuade other City departments that an environmental approach makes sense. He expressed uncertainty as to whether EQAB is fully equated with sustainability. Mr. Person noted that some people have criticized EQAB because the last sustainability report contained economic and quality-of-life indicators. Mr. Cafarella suggested that next time the sustainability report is getting close to completion, it is important to network with others and get them on board. He opined that the economic and quality-of-life indicators do belong in the report.

Vice-Chairman Spector suggested consideration for establishing a legislative subcommittee focused on identifying and tracking environmental legislation, noting that the topic is important to long-term sustainability.

Board Member Munson opined that water conservation is a priority. In response to inquiry by Mr. Cafarella regarding the status of the work program developed, Board Member Munson said he believes the Water Department now feels that the Water Advisory Committee is available as a resource. Board Member Munson suggested that the Water Advisory Committee should concern itself with storm water issues.

A discussion ensued about the Mayor's interest in instituting Green Building standards for commercial construction. Mr. Skidmore noted that Green Building guidelines have been established for commercial construction.

Mr. Cafarella suggested that the Board continue a detailed discussion regarding water issue at a regular meeting.

Chairman Basinger stressed that it is important to leave room for the committees to do their work. Mr. Person said that he senses some frustration in the Green Building Advisory Committee because EQAB has asked the Committee to identify priority areas which EQAB would then consider approving and suggested that it might be preferable for EQAB to give strategic direction to the Green Building Advisory Committee. Chairman Basinger noted the City Council has some input also. Mr. Cafarella suggested that a possible option might be to have a joint meeting and settle on priorities.

Discussion ensued regarding the Energy Committee. Board Member Mulloy agreed that EQAB should establish the Energy Committee priorities. The consensus of the meeting identified that the Energy Committee needs to do some benchmarking to see what other cities are doing and then devise a set of recommendations.

Vice-Chairman Spector remarked that EQAB has never held a City-wide environmental town hall meeting and suggested that this could provide an opportunity to solicit input from the community and help promote EQAB programs. Discussion followed on the possible role of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission.

Board Member Cohen shared Green Building Advisory Committee priorities, noting that Green Building principles for commercial construction is the Committee's next priority and is already in progress.

Board Member Munson identified water conservation, landscape conversion, and storm water as priorities for the Water Advisory Committee.

11. DEVELOP WORK PROGRAM FOR 2006/2007

Mr. Cafarella confirmed that the list of priorities on the whiteboard was complete and asked the meeting to prioritize which items can be accomplished in the next 18 months.

Vice-Chairman Spector noted that many of the priorities are assigned to the various sub-committees, leaving EQAB with only four or five issues. Evaluating EnviroKidsFest will be done after the event. EQAB may decide to hold dust control hearings in conjunction with the Transportation Master Plan. Recycling is a big issue. The promotional strategy for EQAB is a big issue. Conducting a town hall meeting is noted as an additional project. He opined that this is a very manageable list of priorities.

Mr. Cafarella suggested that in the future, Board Members will need to think about forging partnerships. Board Member Munson commented that he would like to see how the topic of sustainability will be translated into the monthly business of the Board. Vice-Chairman Spector suggested that perhaps sustainability should become a standing agenda item. Board Member Leung stated that sustainability is a top priority and urged the Board to think about the big picture and consider past achievements. Board Members concurred. Chairman Basinger emphasized that EQAB is charged with presenting a sustainability report to City Council. In the past, Mayor Manross gave a report on the state of the City and Chairman Basinger gave a report on the state of the environment.

12 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc.